

NEW POLICE COURT VINCENT SQUARE.

A new police-court, in lieu of Queen-square, to be known as the "Westminster," has lately been opened. The front is in Vincent-square; the business entrance is in Dorchester-row. The court itself is a good capacious building, about 30 feet by 24, and exceedingly lofty; it is also very light, and might furnish hints in the construction of our superior courts. The waiting-room is of a very different character. It adjoins the court, and is sufficiently large for ten or a dozen persons to sit uncomfortably in; it is paved with asphalt, and has a door opening in its centre, to the constant annoyance and danger of those who are compelled to wait their turn. The inconvenience attending this arrangement is not wholly experienced by the public, the room itself being so small, in contact with the court, and at times much crowded, every word and laugh are distinctly heard, to the annoyance of the magistrate in the performance of his duties. The room appropriated for the inspector to review charges in is abominably small; to meet this deficiency, a sliding-door is made in the wainscot, which separates it from the passage, and the passage itself is to be used for the culprit. The cells are admirably constructed; they are seven in number, and are warmed by a hot-air apparatus; in every respect they reflect great credit upon the humanity of those who designed them.

Correspondence.

THE QUADRANT, PICCADILLY.

SIR,—You would be doing the inhabitants of Regent-street and the public, a great service by inspecting and exposing the botching manner, in which the Office of Woods and Forests allowed the Quadrant to be built originally, and perhaps your exertions might obtain some uniformity in the repairs that are about to take place. All the housekeepers excepting five, wish the whole of the columns and terrace removed, and are willing to pay the cost. If, however, that cannot be done, a sky-light in the manner of Swan and Edgar's all through, might in some way remedy the present evil.

I remain, Sir, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER TO THE BUILDER.

* The removal of the columns is quite out of the question. We have too few covered walks in London, quietly to yield up one of such an extent as the Quadrant. The introduction of a glass covering, rendered easy by the remission of the duty, would remedy the evil complained of, viz, darkness in the shops, and will, we trust, be concurred in by the owners generally.

POWER OF RUNNING WATER: WATER WHEELS.

SIR,—I should be obliged if any of your engineering correspondents could give me the following information:—I have a stream of water flowing through my premises at the rate of eighty gallons per minute, with a fall of 9 feet; I wish to know what power it would give me, with an overshot wheel of that diameter, and if enough for a circular saw (which I wish to apply to it), what sized one it would drive? If not sufficient for the purpose, can an increase of power be obtained by having a breast wheel, with the fall of water reduced to 5 or 6 feet, by a reservoir of 3 to 4 feet depth, from which, by a sluice, double or treble the quantity may flow on the wheel for a given time, and what would be the proper diameter for the wheel? By your insertion of this, it will oblige.

Yours respectfully,

T. P.

Ile of Wight, Jan. 6th.

CAUTION TO FRENCH POLISHERS.—On Monday evening, as two men, in the employ of Messrs. Powell, cabinet-makers, &c., Argyl-street, were pouring some spirit used in polishing from one vessel to another, a spark, it is supposed from the candle, communicated itself to the spirit, and, in a moment, the shop was in one vast blaze. Such was its violence, that it carried away the whole of the glass sashes, to a considerable distance; and, it is certain, had there been shavings about the shop, the whole premises must have been destroyed. One of the men is very much burnt, though not dangerously.—*Bath Gazette.*

Miscellaneous.

EXTENSION OF LIVERPOOL.—The increase in the number of houses built in Liverpool has been great beyond all precedent during the last two years, as will be seen from the following statement:—No less than 2,450 houses were erected in 1844, and the still more extraordinary number of 3,728 were erected in 1845, within the Parliamentary borough, to say nothing of the hundreds built beyond the boundaries, in the direction of the Old Swan, and the still greater number built on the Cheshire side of the river. To some extent this extraordinary increase in the number of houses has been the result of the excellent regulation which forbids living in cellars, and so far it is a proof of an improved mode of living rather than of an increase of the population; but, even after every allowance has been made for that circumstance, the increase is surprising, and shows that Liverpool is still in the full vigour of its growth. The following particulars of the increase of houses from 1838 to 1845 are very remarkable:—

	Houses.
In 1838	1,052
1839	997
1840	1,577
1841	1,761
1842	2,027
1843	1,300
1844	2,450
1845	3,728

Total 14,982

—*Liverpool Times.*

LONDON SEWAGE COMPANY.—We have received a copy of a report upon the proposed works, by Mr. Wicksteed, but must look a little further into the merits of the company before referring to it. We are acquainted with Mr. John Martin's plan, and the company formed to carry it out. The fact of a Mr. Martin being advertised as secretary to the London Sewage Company, with which Mr. John Martin has nothing to do, has a very questionable appearance. We forbear, however, to make any comments until we have further information.

TRAPALGAR SQUARE.—The public cry out loudly for lights in the square, and cannot understand why darkness should be persisted in, when the gas is laid on, and all things apparently ready. This "finest" site is also the most unfortunate.

BRISTOL ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS.—The first annual meeting of the Academy was held last week, and a very gratifying report was read. We shall refer to it next week.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES.

During the ensuing week.

MONDAY, JAN. 19.—Statistical, 12, St. James's-square, 8 P.M.

TUESDAY, 20.—Syro-Egyptian, 71, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, 8 P.M.; Civil Engineers, 25, Great George-street, 8 P.M. (Anniversary.)

WEDNESDAY, 21.—Geological, Somerset House, 8½ P.M.; London Institution, Finsbury-circus, 7 P.M.

THURSDAY, 22.—Royal, Somerset House, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, Somerset House, 8 P.M.; R. S. Literature, 4, St. Martin's-place, 4 P.M.

FRIDAY, 23.—Royal Institution, Albermarle-street, 8½ P.M.

SATURDAY, 24.—Royal Botanic, Regent's-park, 4 P.M.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

(We are compelled by the interference of the Stamp Office to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c., are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers, however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the Office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent-garden.)

For the execution of works on the Lynn and Ely Railway, being a length of about 13 miles.

For the execution of works on the Lynn and Dereham Railway, being a distance of about 9 miles.

For the execution of works on the Dublin and Belfast Junction and Navan Branch Railway, being two contracts respectively of the lengths of 8 miles 1638 yards, and 8 miles 154 yards.

For the execution of works on the South Wales Railway.

For the execution of the works on the Erewash Valley Railway, being a length of about 17 miles.

For building one or more abutments for the Kingston Cotton-mill Company, with all the requisite excavations, &c.

For supplying the Liverpool Dock Company with a given number of pontoons or iron boats for the support of the landing stage now in course of construction.

For the execution of the embankments and other works connected with Revelin Reservoirs, Sheffield.

For the execution of the works on the Bridlington Branch of the York and North Midland Railway, being a distance of about 19½ miles.

For supplying her Majesty's several Dock-yards with colours and other ingredients for making paint.

For the execution of works on the Newry and Enniskillen Railway, being a distance of about 5½ miles.

For the execution of extensive alterations, &c. on the Whitby and Pickering Railway.

COMPETITION.

The committee for promoting the projected Hospital at Birkenhead are willing to receive designs and estimates for such building. A premium of 50l. will be given for the most approved design, 30l. for the second in estimation, and 20l. for the third.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

At Duxford, Cambridgeshire: 100 ash, elm, and poplar timber trees; and 900 ash, elm, and alder poles. Some of the ash are of large dimensions, and superior quality.

At Poulshot Lodge, near Devizes: 387 elm, and 83 oak trees, of very large dimensions.

A Windsor, near Southampton: 87 prime oak timber trees, of large dimensions, and exceedingly sound.

At Steeple Morden, near Royston: 4,000 larch, Scotch, and spruce poles, &c.

At Babraham: a large fall of ash, elm, sycamore, beech, and other timber trees; also some fine larch and other spires.

At Herringwell, near Mildehall: a large quantity of valuable larch and spruce timber trees, &c.

On the Kennet estate, near Newmarket: 72 oak timber trees of excellent quality, very straight and clean, and of large dimensions, from 20 to 100 feet each; also several ash and elm trees, 2 large poplars, &c.

In the Home-field, near Fryern Court-house, Fordingbridge: 220 ash timber trees, very clean and sound.

At the Angel Inn, Sutton, Surrey: 400 oak, ash, and elm timber trees, some of large dimensions (the principal part being oak).

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Builder."—B. could not substantiate a claim.

"A Subscriber."—Address Mr. Thomas Fry, Birkenhead.

"A Landlord."—Our esteemed correspondent must pardon us for postponing his communication.

"The Allotment System."—A correspondent, used to agricultural operations, is anxious to obtain a five-acre allotment in any part of the country west of the Severn, and wishes to know how he should proceed to effect his object.

"Manchester School of Design."—The pamphlet is published by Simpkin and Marshall.

"A Subscriber."—The improvements alluded to are not expected to be made immediately.

Received:—"Budownik;" "H. E. K.;" "J. J.;" "E. P.;" "P. M.;" "B. B.;" "Oak and Stone."

Various correspondents must excuse us for postponing consideration of their communications.

* Correspondents are requested to address all communications to the Editor, York-street.

NOTICE.

Full price and thanks will be given by our publisher for copies of "THE BUILDER," for any week in October.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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